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FLOOR DEBATE

April 8, 2002

LB 905

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: There's been a request for a machine vote for the adoption of the E & R amendments. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 34 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the Enrollment and Review amendments.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Those amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Baker would move to amend with AM3298. (Legislative Journal page 1179.)

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Baker, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. This amendment simply recognizes the fact that the Governor's intent, and I think Senator Wickersham also said, that this bill should be revenue neutral. What the amendment does is adjust the unified credit periodically to reflect the federal law, the changes. As time moves on, the unified credit on the federal basis moves up from a million dollars to a million five, so on, two million, three million five hundred thousand January 1, 2009, and then, of course, it all goes back to square one January 1 of 2011. And this amendment also reverts back to the one million dollar unified credit on the state level. So, that...that's what the amendment does. I can't make it any more complicated than that. It is a revenue-neutral bill with the adoption of this amendment. And I believe Senator Wickersham said a bit ago, on my snack tax amendment, that we didn't need the money, and that's kind of where we are with this. This is...that was part of the deal, it would be revenue neutral, so hence I brought the amendment. And I would urge support for it. If anyone has any questions, I'd be glad to answer them. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the amendment? Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, I'm going to oppose Senator Baker's amendment, and I think Senator Baker has misunderstood